

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
(317) 232-9855

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7159**

**BILL NUMBER: HB 2056**

**DATE PREPARED:** Jan 9, 2001

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Foster Parent Participation in Dispositional Reviews.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** Kathy Norris

**PHONE NUMBER:** 234-1360

**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill makes a long term foster parent a party to periodic review of a dispositional decree in a proceeding for a Child in Need of Services (CHINS).

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2001.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** This bill defines "long term foster parent" as a person who has been a child's foster parent, providing care and supervision for at least 12 months. The bill makes a long term foster parent a party to periodic case reviews including permanency hearings. The bill may require the staff and attorneys for the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), Division of Family and Children to spend more hours in individual case proceedings. The number of periodic case reviews that might be lengthened as a result of this bill is undetermined, although FSSA estimates that approximately 45% of all cases to terminate parental rights (TPR) involve a long term foster parent. (In 1998 there were 1,271 TPR cases filed.)

The funds and resources required above could be supplied through a variety of sources, including the following: (1) Existing staff and resources not currently being used to capacity; (2) Existing staff and resources currently being used in another program; (3) Authorized, but vacant, staff positions, including those positions that would need to be reclassified; (4) Funds that, otherwise, would be reverted; or (5) New appropriations. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill will depend upon legislative and administrative actions.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** Courts with juvenile jurisdiction may be required to devote more time to the hearing of CHINS and TPR cases. The Division of State Court Administration estimates that each CHINS case requires slightly less than two hours to complete and that the average TPR proceeding requires

2 1/4 hours to complete.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Family and Children.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Courts with juvenile jurisdictions.

**Information Sources:** Indiana Judicial Report; Amy Brown, Legislative Liaison for the Division of Family and Children, (317) 232-4490.